



The Emerald News

Office of
Councilmember
Marti Emerald

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Parent Leadership & Neighborhoods First

February is **National Parent Leadership Month**, honoring and recognizing parents as leaders in their communities. Parents play a significant role in the development of a community by ensuring the well being of their children and the environment they grow up in. They act as advocates for safe neighborhoods and are models for strong community engagement.



Providing safe neighborhoods is my number one goal, and this month we recognize the importance of parents in keeping our children safe by proclaiming February 12, 2013 **"MID-CITY SAFE PASSAGES DAY"** in the City of San Diego. The Mid-City Safe Passages Program was created in 2006 to ensure kids can safely travel to and from school, thanks to the help of parent volunteers. To get involved, contact Dr. Johnson at unitytech@cox.net.

Recently, parents, residents and students in the Teralta community raised concerns about public safety at their neighborhood park. Together with residents, City employees, Mayor Filner and my office, improvements were made including repairing 10 broken lights, six access panels, the additional of decorative park signage and trimming of landscaping to deter loitering and criminal activity. Later this month, six park benches will be installed around the perimeter of the park with doggie litter bag dispensers.

Working with Mayor Filner, we are putting "Neighborhoods First" by making our communities safer and family friendly!

Thanks, Marti

Mission Statement

Empower constituents to improve their quality of life, economy, and neighborhoods through the effective use of a responsive, transparent, and trustworthy city government.

Our Goals:

Provide Safe Neighborhoods, Empower People, Deliver Resources,
Create Economic Opportunity, Promote Trust In Government

District 9 Communities

- Azalea Park
- Castle
- Cherokee Point
- Chollas Creek
- Colina Park
- College Area
- Corridor
- El Cerrito
- Fairmount Park
- Fairmount Village
- Fox Canyon
- Hollywood Park
- Islenair
- Kensington
- Mountain View
- Mt Hope
- Ridgeview
- Rolando
- Southcrest
- Swan Canyon
- Talmadge
- Teralta-East & West

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Questions or concerns?
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Troubleshooting in D9



- A Talmadge resident had a problem reaching the Water Dept. to make a change to his billing. D9 staff was able to have the customer service person contact the resident on the same day and resolved the issue.

- A Talmadge resident reported a pothole caused by a trash truck running over a spot in the street which been trenched and not properly filled. Council staff contacted the Streets Division and the repair was made.

- On Monday, January 14, 2013 city crews installed three road humps on Rowan Street between Colonial Avenue and 39th Street. These road humps will provide traffic calming, reduce speeding and provide increased safety for children walking to and from school.



Safety Speaks

Requiring dashboard cameras to be placed in taxicabs is one of Councilmember Emerald's priorities. With recent taxicab driver murders and acts of violence, the issue is critical. In the interest of taxicab driver and passenger safety, dashboard cameras have proven to be crime fighters by acting as a deterrent and a way of identifying offenders after an incident.

Councilmember Emerald has docketed the issue at the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Taxicab Advisory Committee and plans to pass this critical legislation in early 2013.



In order to do so, state laws must be changed. Currently, California state law allows municipalities to require event recorders, a device slightly different from camera. In order to fully protect drivers and their passengers, continuously recording cameras are necessary. As Chair of the City's Public Safety & Neighborhood Services (PS&NS) Committee, Councilmember Emerald is dedicated to taking swift action to move this forward. In addition to docketing the issue at MTS, she has also docketed a resolution for our state leaders at the next PS&NS meeting.

The Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee will vote on this resolution on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 2PM in City Hall. If you have any public safety concerns, please free to contact Drew Ector by calling (619) 236-7038 or emailing

Dector@sandiego.gov.

Honoring Officer Jeremy Henwood

San Diego Police Officer Jeremy Henwood was universally respected by his colleagues and the people of City Heights. He was war hero who served his country during tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He cared deeply about his career in law enforcement, and was dedicated to serving and protecting our neighborhoods.

Unfortunately, Officer Henwood was denied a promising career and a long productive life. He was gunned down on August 6, 2011 in the line of duty. His presence made us all feel safer, more confident to live our lives and go about our business on the streets of Mid City.



After his senseless death, the City Heights community gathered in our Urban Village Square to pay tribute to him. This land became hallowed ground and is significant for a community in mourning, coming together to offer support to the Henwood family, to our police officers and our neighbors, sharing prayers for a life that ended too soon.

“Naming our community square after Officer Henwood would be a fitting honor to *this* fine young man and all that he represented: men and women everywhere who are willing to lay down their lives to protect others,” said Councilmember Emerald before the Park and Recreation Board.

A special thank you to community leaders: Jim Varnadore, Guy Mock, and Patty Vaccariello for their leadership on behalf of the City Heights community in naming the turf area at City Heights Urban Village in memory of Officer Jeremy Henwood. On January 17, 2013, the San Diego Park and Rec Board approved to make the change unanimously.

February Community Events

- **Saturday, February 2, 2013 – Rummage Sale at Rowan Elementary School** (1755 Rowan Street) from 8am to 12pm. Money raised will go towards classroom supplies and enrichment activities for Rowan student.
- **Saturday, February 9, 2013 – Councilmember Emerald proclaims February 5, 2013 as “Azalea Park Neighborhood Association Day”** in the City of San Diego at the San Diego Canyonlands Manzanita Canyon Monthly Event. Meet us at 2596 Violet Street at 11am.
- **Thursday, February 14, 2013 – The International Rescue Committee’s Community Supports Agriculture (CSA)** allows you to pre-order a weekly box of fresh vegetables, grown locally by refugee farmers. For more info and to sign up, visit <http://www.rescue.org/us-program/us-san-diego-ca/irc-community-supported-agriculture>.
- **Thursday, February 21, 2013 – The Kensington Community Council is sponsoring an “Antique Row” show** at 6:30pm at the Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive SD 92116. Dinner will be catered by Di-Milles. Reserve tickets today by calling Ken Video at (619) 284-2477.
- **Friday, February 22, 2013 – Mid City Family Resource Fair at Cherokee Point Elementary** (3735 39th Street). Join the SDPD’s Mid City Division Juvenile Service Team and several community based organizations from 5pm to 9pm to explore resources and programs available for today’s youth. Call (619) 516-3060 for more information.
- **Saturday, February 23, 2013 – Chollas Creek Monthly Event** is held every 4th Saturday from 9am to 12pm. Meet at 47th Street and Chollas Parkway. Or meet at the new second location - Chollas Parkway North, just south of the New Roots Farm. For more info, visit www.sandiegocanyonlands.org

Marti in the District



Marti at the Mt. Hope/Helix Heights Residents Association meeting, discussing important future plans for the community and listening to residents' concerns.



Councilmember Emerald donates blood and saves lives at the 7th Annual Battle of the Badges event at Cherokee Point Elementary school.



The Little Saigon Foundation (LSF), Talmadge neighbors and Marti at the LSF's monthly clean up event along El Cajon Boulevard.



Marti celebrating the Karen New Year at Crawford

SPRING AND SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

San Diego City Councilmember Emerald's office is currently welcoming applications from motivated and excited high school and college student **interns** looking to gain experience working for an elected official for this spring or summer.

Interns perform a variety of functions, from assisting with mailings to researching community and policy issues and have opportunities to sit in on Council and Committee meetings, participate in community events, and much more. Students must be able to commit 10+ hours/week during regular business hours, and able to attend the occasional night/weekend event. We make it a priority to give our interns plenty of opportunity to be exposed to the full government/political experience.

Interested applicants should e-mail Cynthia Harris (crharris@sandiego.gov) their cover letter, résumé, at least one letter of recommendation, and a brief writing sample. Please feel free to call (619) 533-5897 with any questions.